

PLATTSBURGH AIR FORCE BASE,  
EDUCATION CENTER  
(Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 2670)  
Arizona Avenue  
Plattsburgh  
Clinton County  
New York

HAER No. NY-326-CF

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

National Park Service  
Northeast Region  
Philadelphia Support Office  
U.S. Custom House  
200 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

PLATTSBURGH AIR FORCE BASE  
EDUCATION CENTER  
(Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 2670)

HAER No. NY-326-CF

**Location:** Arizona Avenue, Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York

UTM: 18.621880.4946840  
Quad: Plattsburgh, NY-VT, 1:24,000 (1966)

**Date of Construction:** 1957

**Architect:** Unknown

**Present Owner:** United States Air Force

**Present Use:** Vacant

**Significance:** Building No. 2670 provided facilities for the advancement of the academic, technical, and occupational education of military personnel of all grades and ranks, in order to enhance their potential to the service.

**Project Information:** Building No. 2670 at Plattsburgh Air Force Base (AFB) is being documented in accordance with HAER standards to mitigate for the potential adverse effects of transferring deed of title to the property from Federal ownership. The property transfer is a result of the disposal and reuse of Plattsburgh AFB, pursuant to the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1993. The mitigation is a stipulation of a Programmatic Agreement (PA) among the U.S. Air Force, the New York State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (October 2000).

Michael Pumphrey  
Deborah Dobson-Brown  
Earth Tech, Inc.  
1461 East Cooley Drive  
Colton, CA 92324

Summary Description of Education Center (Building No. 2670)

**Layout**

Building No. 2670 is a 13,392 square-foot, two-story, reinforced concrete block building. It is rectangular in plan with its flat roof having minimal overhangs. All elevations are symmetrical, and the front (west) façade has a center entrance, sheltered by a simple, flat roof canopy projecting from the ground floor ceiling line level. Fenestration on each wall is arranged symmetrically with two-over-two, double hung wood sash windows repeating the rhythm at both levels.

**Alterations/Additions**

There have been no major alterations or additions made to Building No. 2670.

**Function**

Building No. 2670 was designed and used as an educational facility.

**Significance**

The end of World War II saw the beginning of hostile relations between the Soviet Union and the United States, based on differing social, economic, and political views. As this "Cold War" escalated, the United States instituted a policy of containment, which called for a "peaceful" blocking of the expansion of Soviet political and economic influence. Nuclear weapons, which had also developed at the end of World War II, held a significant place in this conflict, but it was theorized that an American nuclear capability, if strong enough, could deter unwanted soviet expansion.

On March 21, 1946, the Strategic Air Command (SAC) was organized as one of the three new major commands in a reorganized Army Air Force. SAC was considered the "big stick" of U.S. National military strength, and was given the responsibility of delivering the atomic weapons. With the motto "peace is our profession" SAC was the physical realization of America's deterrence theory.

The newly established Air Force (established in 1947) embarked upon an expansive Cold War building program to make SAC operable. Air Force bases designated specifically for SAC were identified (or newly constructed) and became the exceptional instrument in SAC's mission of posing a significant deterrent to enemy aggression. Specially-designed facilities were constructed at each of these facilities, among which would have to be counted the Education Building, Building No. 2670.

Building No. 2670 at Plattsburgh AFB was constructed in 1957 to enhance academic, technical, and occupational education of military personnel of all grades and ranks. It was in this capacity that Building No. 2670 both supported and enhanced the SAC flight mission. It was an essential part of Plattsburgh AFB Cold War era activities and a critical element of Plattsburgh AFB SAC flight operations.

## Drawings

Copies of as-built drawings for Education Center, Building No. 2670, are archived at:

Air Force Historical Research Agency/ISA  
600 Chennault Circle  
Maxwell Air Force Base, AL 36112-6424

## Sources

Tetra Tech, Inc.,  
1995 *Survey of Cold War-Era Buildings and Structures at Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Clinton County, New York*. Prepared for the U.S. Department of the Air Force, Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence, Brooks Air Force Base, Texas.

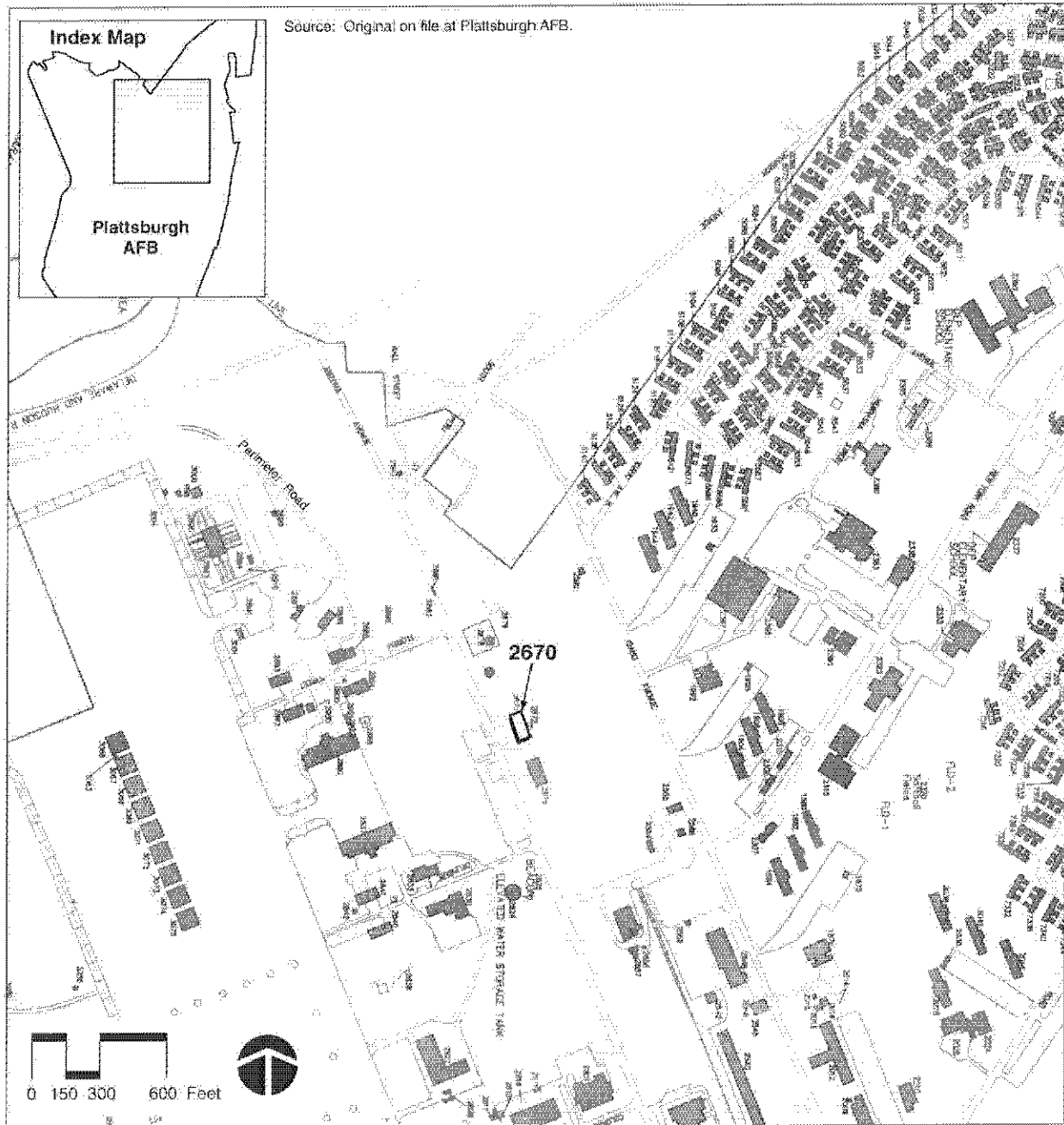
United States Air Force  
1959 Plattsburgh Air Force Base Real Property Accountable Record (1959-1989).

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1991 *Peace...is our Profession: Alert Operations and the Strategic Air Command, 1957-1991*. Office of the Historian, Headquarters Strategic Air Command, Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska.

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2000 Plattsburgh Air Force Base Real Property Inventory Detail List.

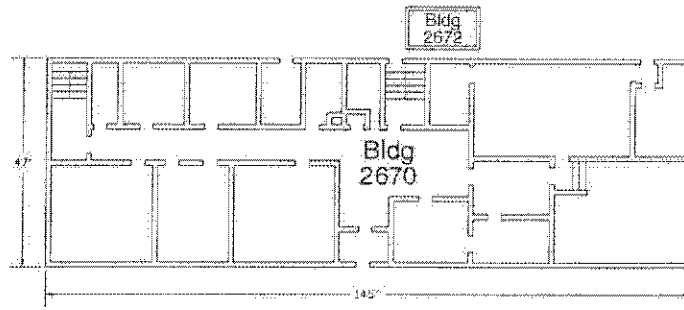
U.S. Department of the Air Force, Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence  
1998 *Draft Historic Building Inventory and Evaluation Plattsburgh Air Force Base New York*, Volumes I and II, June.

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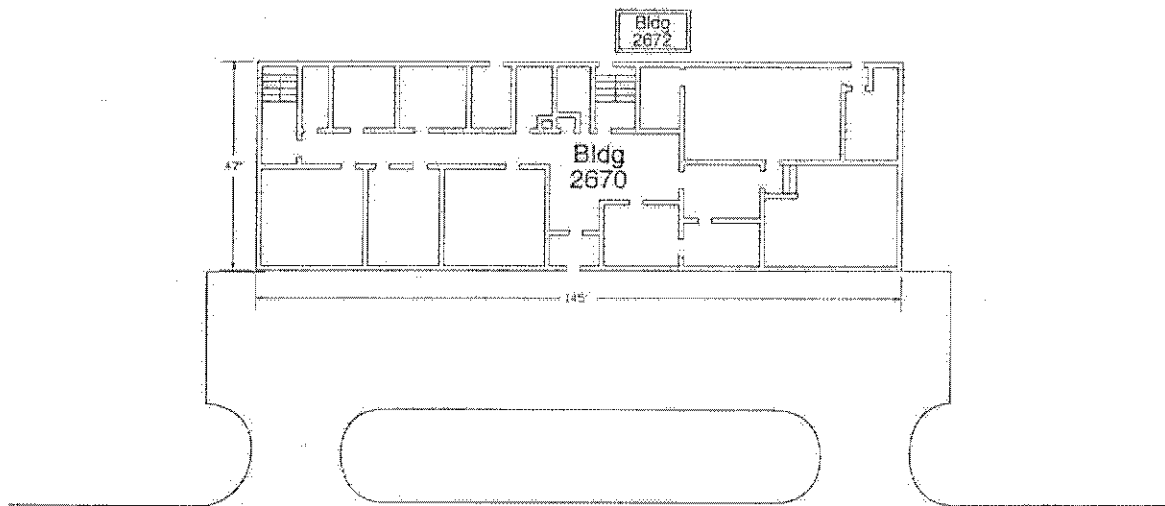


Location Map of Education Center, Building No. 2670  
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Second Floor Plan



Arizona Avenue

First Floor Plan



Sketch not to Scale

SKETCH PLAN - EDUCATION CENTER BUILDING, FIRST AND SECOND FLOORS  
(Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 2670)  
(Source: Plattsburgh AFB CAD File, Prepared by the United States Air Force, ca 2000)  
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